

A gifted athlete, Sergeant Hansen served as captain of the track, wrestling and football teams for the Kingsley High School Stags during his high school career. Sergeant Hansen also enjoyed outdoor activities such as snowboarding and was an avid motorcyclist—often doing these activities with members of his family.

Sergeant Hansen graduated in 2003 from Kingsley High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2005. He attended the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton, California, where he graduated with honors. In 2006, Sergeant Hansen was selected to participate in and graduated from the Basic Reconnaissance Course in Coronado, California. He was also stationed at Camp Schwab with the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion in Okinawa, Japan. He was later deployed with the 31st Expeditionary Marine Unit and joined the Special Operations Command in 2009. His honors include the Purple Heart, two Combat Action Ribbons, two Good Conduct Medals, certified Corps Parachutist, and a brown belt in the U.S. Marine Corps Martial Arts program.

Sergeant Hansen is survived by his parents, Ms. Vickie Hayes of Vanderbilt, Michigan, and Mr. Richard Hansen, of Williamsburg, Michigan. Sergeant Hansen is also survived by his stepmother, Shawna Hansen; stepfather, Steven C. Cornell; sisters, Adrienne (Matthew) Russell, of Traverse City, Morgan Compton and Veronica Compton of Kingsley; stepbrothers, Jeremy Borey, of Chicago, IL, and Adam Cornell, of Traverse City; stepsister, Jessica Borey, of Elk Rapids; grandparents, Wayne and Ardyce Hansen, of Traverse City, Ken and Sandra Sleder, of Traverse City, and Carol Hays, of Jackson; niece and nephew, Madison Goodwin and Garrett Russell, of Traverse City; aunts and uncles, Steve Hansen of Pacifica, California, Richard and Sue Costlow of Traverse City, USAF Chief MSgt. Erick M. and Mary Hays, of Benton, Louisiana, Lonnie and Valerie Schaub, of Grand Rapids, Dave and LeAnne Sleder, of Traverse City, Jeff and Bev Sleder, of Katy, Texas, and Kathy Sleder, of Fort Collins, Colorado; as well as a large extended family throughout the United States.

I can find no words that can fully express my gratitude for his service to our country or for the sympathy I feel for family, friends, and loved ones by the loss of this young man. I know Justin's memory will live on through our actions and conduct towards others.

To Justin's family, I can offer only the hope that you will find solace in the loving embrace of your family, friends, and the kind providence of God. I am well aware that my words will not soften your overwhelming grief, but I am reminded of the words of President Lincoln, written to a mother during the Civil War, "I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

On behalf of the citizens of the First District of Michigan, I would like to express my profound sadness for the loss of Sergeant Justin Hansen. Northern Michigan has certainly lost one of its finest, and his memory and service will not be forgotten.

MARINE DEBRIS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House passed H.R. 1171, known as the Marine Debris Act Amendments of 2012.

This act reauthorizes the NOAA Marine Debris Program at currently appropriated levels through fiscal year 2015. It has strong bipartisan support, particularly from my colleague DON YOUNG, who was an original co-sponsor.

Look, nobody wants to go out on the water or to sit on the beach and see trash. But it's not just an eyesore—marine debris is a very critical problem for marine ecosystems, fisheries, and shipping. Marine debris can have devastating impacts on the U.S. economy too. For instance, it is estimated that \$250 million of marketable lobster is lost annually to derelict fishing gear, which can also cause up to \$792 million per year in damages to boat propellers.

Right now, an estimated 5–20 million tons of debris from the Japan's tsunami are floating across the Pacific Ocean toward the United States. As this first wave of tsunami debris—including a 66-ft dock teaming with over 90 non-native species—washes ashore, I am astounded by the magnitude of this disaster's global impact. Cleanup costs can be huge. Alaska has already spent \$200,000 just for aerial monitoring of the local debris field from the Japanese tsunami. While the Japanese tsunami debris resulted from a natural disaster, ocean trash is preventable.

Added to the debris that's already out there—is an average of 7 million tons of new trash dumped into the ocean each year. Solving this problem is going to require:

Local action, national and international coordination;

Unique partnerships between private and public sectors;

Innovative technology;

Education, Research and Prevention.

The NOAA Marine Debris Program has been achieving real successes at sea and on shore, for a modest amount of funding. But this program expired in 2010 and must be reauthorized. Over the past 5 years, funding has ranged from 3.2 million to 4.9 million dollars.

It is clear from the recent tsunami debris events—the boat off the coast of Washington and the dock washed ashore in Oregon—that the problem is growing. There is no doubt in my mind that the Marine Debris Program could effectively spend \$10 million dollars a year—that is the magnitude of the problem. And that is what was authorized in 2006. As this bill moves through the legislative process, I hope we can bring up the funding levels. Most of these funds go to local communities in the form of grants for marine debris cleanup, education, research, and prevention efforts.

Mr. Speaker, NOAA's Marine Debris Program is leading the effort to address this growing problem proactively and I thank my colleagues for passing for H.R. 1171.

HONORING FLORENCE MURNEY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Florence Murney, a lifelong resident of Chicago, who is celebrating her 100th birthday.

Florence Murney née Klein was born on August 9, 1912, on the southwest side of Chicago where she has resided her entire life. Florence is the older of two daughters of Edward and Augusta Klein; her loving younger sister, Dorothy Buhe, recently celebrated her 98th birthday. Florence and her sister grew up in St. Raphael's Parish where they attended Catholic school and developed their lifelong devotion to the Catholic faith.

On May 22, 1937, Florence married Edward Murney at the historic St. Rita's Church. The married couple lived happily in the same apartment building in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood as Dorothy and her husband making sure that Dorothy's children would never be too far away from their beloved "Auntie Florence."

Florence worked as a jewelry and clothing saleswoman at several Chicago stores including Busch Jewelers, Bond's Clothing store, and O'Keefe's Men's Wear. During World War II, Florence served our country as a true "Rosie the Riveter" working in a plant that manufactured airplanes for the war effort.

In 1956, Florence and her husband moved to a house in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago where she still resides by herself with no assistance. Florence remains a devout parishioner at St. Christina's Church and is very involved with Catholic Charities.

Florence Murney is a beloved and cherished aunt, great aunt, and great-great aunt to 15 nieces and nephews. She is also the godmother to several people who are all honored to know her.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Florence Murney a happy 100th birthday, and to thank her for being such a great contributor to her community and our country.

HUDSON HIGHLANDS LAND TRUST AND THE WESTCHESTER LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and the Westchester Land Trust for receiving accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Accreditation represents the highest standard of excellence in land conservation, and provides public recognition of land trusts that are engaged in the long-term protection of the land in the public interest.

As a supporter of legislation to make permanent the tax deductions for conservation easements, I am committed to working with organizations to promote responsible stewardship of our nation's most cherished natural resources. The Hudson Highlands Land Trust and the